(d) if so, the action plan of Government to redress the grievances of the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. In fact, a total number of 1815 rakes of iron ore for export were loaded during current year from April to February, 2005 as compared to 1795 rakes during the same period last year.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Shortage of wagons

1985. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways is facing acute shortage of wagons, to the extent of 20 per cent of the total requirement of wagons;

(b) whether because of shortage of wagons, Railways has altered the 'condemnation criteria' for unserviceable wagons and are pressing back into service wagons condemned already; and

(c) whether the Railways has stopped import of wheel sets causing stoppage of wagon manufacture; and, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. Wagon requirement is broadly assessed for 5 year Plan period and fine tuned from year to year on the basis of volume of traffic expected to be carried out in that particular year.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

Interim report of UC Banerjee Committee

1986. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UC Banerjee Commission in its report pointed out the failure of the Railway Administration to preserve crucial clues of the Godhra Train incident;

(b) whether it is a fact that the damaged portion of the coach S-7 has been disposed off;

(c) if so, whether this action caused destruction of the evidences; and

(d) whether any enquiry has been initiated to ascertain the role of the authorities concerned in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Justice UC Banerjee Committee in its interim report has pointed out the failure of the Railway Administration to preserve some of the clues of the Godhra train incident.

(b) Yes, Sir. Broken parts of windown-panes and shutters and burnt vestibule of S-7 Coach were disposed off in scrap.

(c) This is in the purview of enquiries by Justice UC Banerjee Committee and the Judicial Commission appointed by the Government of Gujarat.

(d) No separate enquiry has been initiated in view of reply to part (c) above.

Enquiry into the Godhra train incident

1987. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no statutory enquiry was conducted by the Railway Administration into the Godhra train incident;

(b) if so, whether it was in violation of the Railway Act, Accident Manual of the Zonal Railways; and

(c) the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Commissioner of Railway Safety, Western Circle, under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, did not undertake statutory inquiry into the Godhra train incident under Section 114 of the Railways Act, 1989 in view of the Government of Gujarat having appointed a Judicial Commission under Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 and Section 119 of Railways Act, 1989.

(c) Does not arise.